

Mayor's Wellness Challenge

We are thrilled to present the 3rd Annual Wellness Challenge calendar of events! **Thirty-one days of free activities for YOU and our community!** This year we have weekly themes (**Healthy Body, Healthy Mind, and Healthy Community**) and **weekly PRIZES!** Sign up to receive news and updates at www.mountvernonwa.gov, follow us on Facebook at Mount Vernon Wellness Challenge, or contact the Mayor's Office at (360) 336-6211. Hope to see you at some of the events! Bring a friend!



Read the Book, See the Movie Day: The Hobbit

It's a great time to read J.R.R. Tolkien's "The Hobbit." Why now? Because the City Library, the Mount Vernon Elk's Club, and the Lincoln Theatre are celebrating this great book on July 26th with a barbecue in Pine Square and free showings of "The Hobbit: an Unexpected Adventure" and "The Hobbit: the Desolation of Smaug." This event has been made possible by the Elks through an Elks Beacon Grant.

3:00 pm: Showing of "The Hobbit: An Unexpected Adventure" at the Lincoln Theatre

6:00 pm: Barbecue (and ice cream social) cooked and served by Elks Club members in Pine Square

7:30 pm: Showing of "The Hobbit: The Desolation of Smaug" at the Lincoln Theatre

2014 Street Maintenance Program

The City of Mount Vernon has historically funded our street maintenance program every year with revenue from Real Estate Excise Tax. This year our budgeted amount is \$460,000. Our Public Works engineers work diligently to track and monitor the condition of our pavement – recommending projects each year to the City Council. We maintain 270 lane miles of roadway in the City! And keep up to date records of the condition of each and every mile. We use different methods of maintaining our roads: crack sealing, overlay, and reconstruction are used depending on the repairs that are needed.

Street Crack Sealing: City Street Department staff are crack sealing streets on an ongoing basis during the summer months. The sealing appears as squiggly black lines on the pavement. Streets are crack sealed to: 1) extend the life of the pavement by sealing the surface and keeping water from getting into the subgrade, and 2) delay cracks from reflecting through overlays or chip seals. Crews are working on sealing on McLean Rd. (in front of the school), S. 2nd, Riverside, N. 18th (Fir to College Way), E. Division, Old 99, Cedardale, Kincaid, Fulton, and Hazel.



Reconstruction: When cracks are so severe the pavement has started breaking up, a street reconstruction is necessary. Our own City Street Crew does a lot of the preparation for street reconstruction before a contractor arrives for paving. We are reconstructing several sections of street in the N. 10th (between Division and Broad) area of the City this year.

Overlay: Street life can be extended by overlaying a street with a coating of pavement and rock. There are several areas in the City where overlays have significantly extended the life of pavement! Waugh, Blackburn, Lincoln Hill, McLean, LaVenture, and N. 18th are examples of overlay projects.



Mayor's Coffee Hours

Friday, July 18

10:00 - 11:00 am

Skagit Publishing Community Room

1215 Anderson Road

**Joint Coffee Hour with
Senator Kevin Ranker*

Friday, July 25

12:00 - 1:00 pm

Pine Square Picnic Area

**Bring a lunch if you'd like*



Children's Art Festival

Saturday, July 19

10:00 am - 4:00 pm

Hillcrest Park

1717 S. 13th Street

You won't want to miss this super event! This year's Festival will be filled with quality local children's entertainment and approximately 30 booths providing hands on arts and crafts! Concessions will be available at the event or you are welcome to bring your own lunch. Children can experience activities from fish prints to sand art and, best of all, it's free!!! The Festival is supported by the City of Mount Vernon and many other generous businesses and organizations within Mount Vernon and the Skagit Valley. Bring the whole family, a picnic lunch, and enjoy the day together at Hillcrest Park in Mount Vernon.

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Parks and Recreation Comprehensive Plan

The City of Mount Vernon Parks and Recreation Comprehensive Plan draft document is now available to the public. The document can be viewed on the City website at www.mountvernonwa.gov or hard copies can be reviewed at the following locations:

Mount Vernon Parks and Recreation Administration Office: 1717 S. 13th Street

Mount Vernon Community and Economic Development Office: 910 Cleveland Avenue

Mount Vernon City Library: 315 Snoqualmie Street

Interested parties are invited to attend an open house meeting on Monday, July 28, from 6:00 pm to 7:30 pm at Hillcrest Park Lodge, located at 1717 South 13th Street in Mount Vernon. This will be an opportunity to see an overview of the draft Comprehensive Plan and to comment on the document. The City Planning Commission will review the document on August 19, 2014, and there will be a City Council public hearing on September 10, 2014, to finalize the document for approval.

We will also be taking written comments which can be emailed to mvparks@mountvernonwa.gov or mailed to: Mount Vernon Parks and Recreation, 1717 South 13th Street, Mount Vernon, WA 98274.

Police Department Rolls Out New Vehicles

The Police Department has chosen the Ford Interceptor as its patrol vehicle of choice, the first of which will hit the streets in the next month or two. Ford discontinued production of the traditional Crown Victoria model that has been in use for many years. The Police Department tested several models before making its decision.



The Interceptor is operationally more versatile than the smaller sized sedan and is the most popular police vehicle in the nation. Interceptors are already being driven by neighboring law enforcement agencies.

The new patrol vehicles are equipped with all-wheel drive, which will help during the slick winter or rainy months. The taller platform makes it easier for officers to get in and out of the vehicle compared to the lower-riding sedan. The Interceptors include special seats with cutouts for officers' utility belts and more room to safely transport people in the back seat. Added safety features such as side airbags and reinforced rear frames are also important improvements.

The Interceptor provides more storage space for officers' equipment and the vehicle's interior design provides much needed space for computers and other electronic devices required to police effectively. The new vehicle has a smaller engine, which provides the same performance with better fuel efficiency.

This is a good selection for the Department, balancing the needs of the officers and the proven track record of Ford police vehicles while remaining fiscally responsible to the citizens of our community.